

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Delays in Completing Construction Work

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1. The Giurgiu-Ruse road and railway bridge has only a one track railway line on its lower level, and above it a road bridge for pedestrians and road transport. It has been built by large sections, prefabricated in Czechoslovakia and brought by train and barge to the site. The work continues this winter, for instead of being completed by the end of 1953, it has still not been commissioned. It is now expected to be completed sometime before the end of 1954. Engineers on the construction site explain that it would have been uneconomical to build a bridge for a double railway track because it would have involved much more work and material to support the weight of two fully loaded trains. It will serve its purpose with only one track.
2. In Sep 1953 a Government Commission visited the site of the Danube-Black Sea Canal, allegedly to investigate the reasons of the slow progress of the construction. Soon after its departure, work on the canal was stopped, many free workers were withdrawn, but the forced laborers remained in their camps. Later some forced laborers were transferred elsewhere. The rumor that they would be allowed to work as free laborers has not been confirmed.

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